

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern Application No
PCT/IB2005/050404

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B8/00 A61B8/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2003/204142 A1 (BROCK-FISHER GEORGE A 'US! ET AL) 30 October 2003 (2003-10-30) paragraphs '0011! - '0015! paragraph '0035! - paragraph '0039! paragraph '0057! - paragraph '0095!; figures 8-10	11-14, 17-19 15, 16, 20
X A	US 2001/009977 A1 (SATO TAKESHI ET AL) 26 July 2001 (2001-07-26) paragraph '0031! - paragraph '0069!; figures 2A-C, 3, 7, 8	11-14 18, 19
A	US 2003/236460 A1 (MA QINGLIN ET AL) 25 December 2003 (2003-12-25) the whole document	11-20
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 419 632 B1 (SHIKI EIICHI ET AL) 16 July 2002 (2002-07-16) column 19, line 34 - column 23, line 52; figures 40,41 -----	11-14, 17-19
A	US 5 961 460 A (GURACAR ET AL) 5 October 1999 (1999-10-05) column 3, line 60 - column 13, line 50; figures 1,7 -----	11,13, 15,17-19
A	US 6 454 714 B1 (NG GARY ET AL) 24 September 2002 (2002-09-24) column 2, line 37 - column 3, line 67; figure 2 -----	11,13, 14,17-19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/050404

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-10
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery due to the intravenous use of a contrast agent
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Intern Application No.
 PCT/IB2005/050404

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003204142 A1	30-10-2003	AU 2003214575 A1 EP 1501419 A1 WO 03090624 A1 US 2004030253 A1	10-11-2003 02-02-2005 06-11-2003 12-02-2004
US 2001009977 A1	26-07-2001	JP 2001269344 A	02-10-2001
US 2003236460 A1	25-12-2003	NONE	
US 6419632 B1	16-07-2002	JP 2000342586 A	12-12-2000
US 5961460 A	05-10-1999	AU 6963998 A WO 9846139 A1	11-11-1998 22-10-1998
US 6454714 B1	24-09-2002	NONE	